

**CORVALLIS CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMISSION ON TRANSIT  
MINUTES**

January 9, 2002

Members Present

Craig Anderson, Chair  
Bob Lowry  
Janon Rogers  
Lita Verts  
Stewart Wershow, Councilor

Staff

Bernadette Barrett, Public Works  
Steve Rogers, Public Works

Absent - Unexcused

Jeff Barricks  
Dan Preller

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION**

Agenda Item	Informa- tion Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations/Action
Minutes - December 12			Accepted as written
Transit District Formation		X	
Bus Bench Proposal			Discussion Tabled until Future Meeting
Ridership Report	X		
Holiday Trolley	X		
Annual City Survey Results	X		
Intermodal Mall - Status Report	X		
CTS Special Edition Newsletter	X		
OSU Ridership Survey	X		
New Low-Floor Buses	X		
Transit Operations Issues	X		

**CONTENT OF DISCUSSION**

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - December 12, 2001**

The minutes were accepted as presented.

**II. TRANSIT DISTRICT**

Public Works Director Rogers directed the Commission's attention to the "White Paper on Transit Service" dated December 5, 2001. He provided a matrix of the three types of transit districts, i.e., mass transportation district, mass transportation district (Salem model), and transportation district. Decision points and other related information was also provided. The differences between the districts were described and discussed. He also provided a copy of a memorandum to the Mayor and City Council dated January 2, 2002, which provided additional information

regarding the transit district consideration. Mr. Rogers indicated that the same presentation was made to the City Council on Monday, January 7, and that additional presentations would be made to a variety of stakeholders.

The Commission discussed the various options, including potential boundaries, funding sources, and district governing structure. Copies of the matrix and other information provided at the meeting will be distributed to the CACOT members.

The January 24 special CACOT meeting to receive public input on the white paper and the possible formation of a transit district was discussed. The meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the City/County library and will be advertised several times in the newspaper. Information about the meeting has already been provided in the CTS special edition newsletter and on the buses. Staff will make a brief presentation at the beginning of the meeting. The public can then ask questions before being asked to provide their input at several stations around the room. Each location will have a CACOT member present to receive input. Staff will be available to answer additional questions. The public will also have an opportunity to provide their comments in writing before the meeting or at the meeting. CACOT will then discuss the public input at their regularly-scheduled February meeting.

### **III. ADVERTISING BENCHES**

A memorandum was provided to Commission members regarding the proposal received from Adbench, Inc. to provide bus benches throughout the community. The company would sell advertising on the benches to pay for the program and the City would receive a small percentage of the revenue. Staff investigated various issues related to the proposal, including use of the public right-of-way, designated stops, advertising restrictions, the City's responsibilities for this activity, contractor's responsibilities, potential revenue and other related issues. Following a brief discussion, CACOT members agreed to table this discussion until a future meeting, with the understanding that staff would identify potential locations while completing the designated stop locations.

### **IV. INFORMATION SHARING**

#### **A. Ridership Report**

The December ridership reports were presented. CTS provided 34,586 rides during December, including the holiday trolley. The Philomath ridership was also presented. Both ridership numbers were lower than last December. It was noted that OSU's winter break was longer this year and most likely impacted ridership.

#### **B. Holiday Trolley**

Staff reported that 1,799 rides were provided during this year's operations. The trolley ran November 23-25 and December 6-27, except no service December 25. It operated 146.4 hours this year compared to 100.3 last year. Rides per hour were 12, which is lower than last year's 23 rides per hour. Staff will review the ridership reports and reduce the hours next year to match costs with contributions and target the highest demand days.

#### **C. Annual City Survey Results**

Excerpts from the Annual City Survey were distributed to CACOT members, including those narrative comments that specifically spoke to transit service. It was noted that there were a few comments regarding the bus size and that it was time to again provide information to the public regarding the reason why the City utilizes 35-foot buses. This could coincide with the arrival of the two, new low-floor buses.

#### **D. Intermodal Mall - Status Report**

The City's consultant has prepared and filed documents with the City's Planning Division for the Conditional Development Permit. A hearing will most likely be held in early February. The consultant is also working on plans and specifications for the bidding process.

#### **E. CTS Special Edition Newsletter**

A special edition newsletter was prepared to inform CTS customers about the fare increase, the public forum on the transit district formation, and the route change for the Good Samaritan Hospital entrance closure. Copies of the newsletter had been sent to CACOT members before the meeting. Additional copies were distributed.

#### **F. OSU Survey**

Staff reported that preparations are being made for the annual OSU on-board ridership survey. This year's survey will be conducted the weeks of January 28 and February 4. Results of the survey will be available at either the February 13 or March 13 CACOT meeting.

#### **G. New Buses**

The two, new low-floor buses have been delivered to Lane Transit District, where they are being inspected. A manufacturing representative is expected to be on site in the next week or so to review the inspection checklist. Once the buses have been accepted, staff will invite CACOT members and members of Access Benton County to view the buses before they are put into service.

#### **H. Transit Operations Issues**

Staff confirmed that there are still some days when the buses are running behind schedule, but it is not as consistent as it was in October and early November. It was noted by CACOT members who ride the bus regularly that this problem seems to "ebb and flow".

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

#### Future Meetings:

Wednesday, February 13, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D  
Wednesday, March 13, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D  
Wednesday, April 10, 7:50 a.m., City Hall Conference Rm. D